

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. Claims 1-16 are rejected.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include certain reference signs mentioned in the description. Applicants' have filed a replacement sheet that includes amended FIG 1, however, Applicants do not completely agree with the Patent Office's requirement. Paragraph 14 of the specification specifically directs the reader that the description of the invention is pointed out in FIGS 1 and 2. This is done because components discussed therein may be found in FIG 1 or FIG 2, but there is not a requirement that all components be drawn in each figure. The requirement under 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) states that reference characters mentioned in the description must appear in the drawings. The requirement does not state that each figure is required to have all components drawn therein. Thus, FIG 1 of the application is accurate and therefore this requirement has been traversed.

Specification

The specification has been amended to traverse the objections cited in the January 30, 2007 Official Action.

Claim Objections and Rejections under 35 USC §112

Applicant has made amendments to the claims to traverse the outstanding objection and rejections. Reconsideration is requested.

Claim Rejections 35 USC §103

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morrison et al (US 4207087) in view of Betker et al (US 5279672). Morrison discloses an electronic board game that provides audible and visual indications of the progress of the game and the participant and specifically a game wherein a participant may play against the machine or with a device that controls the interaction of two participants. Betker, on the other hand, discloses an automatic floor scrubber which integrates a sophisticated robotic navigation means with automated floor scrubbing functions to provide both a substantial reduction in the personnel required to participate in the floor scrubbing process and a thorough floor scrubbing operation without excessive wear. The Patent Office feels that it would have been obvious to integrate the teachings of Betker into the teachings of Morrison in order to further stimulate the player's interest in the game by providing the addition of motor rotated wheels to move the housing of Morrison's game during game play. The Applicant appreciates the teachings of the references but respectfully disagrees with the Patent Office's rejections and its ability to combine the references.

As the USPTO is well-aware to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), three basic criteria must be met. First, the prior art reference must teach or suggest all the claimed limitations. Second, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. And finally, there must be a reasonable expectation of success.

The first criteria requires that the prior art references must teach or suggest all the claimed limitations. Even with the combination of the Morrison and Betker references, the references still fail to teach or suggest all the claimed limitations. The independent claims of Applicants invention requires a **mechanical means to move the housing while the sequence of events are being sensorially rendered, the mechanical means controllable by the microprocessor**. Neither reference includes a microprocessor to control a mechanical means to move the housing while the sequence of events are being rendered. Even if you combine the mechanical means provided in the Betker reference with the Morrison

reference there would still be a lack of teaching and support for the requirement that the microprocessor specifically control the mechanical means such that the housing moves while the sequence of events are being sensorially rendered.

Applicant also purports that such a combination is not possible because it renders either prior art patent unfit for its intended purpose (MPEP 2143.01). Combining the teachings of Betker with Morrison would result in a gaming device with multiple buttons that also moves around on a surface to clean the surface utilizing moving bristles attached to the underside of the gaming device. There is nothing in the Morrison patent that would suggest that the gaming device could be modified into a cleaning device. Combining the teachings of Morrison with Betker would result in a floor scrubber that has buttons associated with lights, tones and a "play pattern" for entertainment activities. The Betker device is not a toy or game and further there is nothing in the Betker patent that would suggest that a floor scrubber could be modified to a toy or game. Gaming devices are intended to provide entertainment, while cleaning devices are intended to assist a user in tasks that are often undesirable and physically taxing, such as manual floor scrubbing. Since both the Morrison and Betker references would be rendered unsatisfactory for their intended purpose, there is no suggestion or motivation to make the proposed modification and as such, Claims 1-16 are unobvious in view thereof.

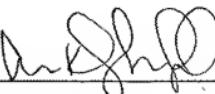
Further, to rely on a reference under 35 USC 103, the reference must be analogous prior art (MPEP 2141.01(a)). The Betker reference is not in the field of Applicant's endeavor, nor is the reference reasonably pertinent to the particular problem with which the inventor was concerned. Applicant's Rotating Pattern Matching Board Game is in the field of games and toys and provides an entertainment experience for users. Betker falls under the field of cleaning items that perform tasks that can be physically demanding and provides assistance to a user to improve the quality of the cleaning process while easing the strain on a user. Since the Betker reference is non-analogous art, it should be dropped from consideration.

With the amendments and remarks made herein to follow the Examiner's suggestions, a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

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If the Office has additional questions, please contact the undersigned at 312-521-2775.

Respectfully submitted,

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